

QUESTION RE LARGE NUMBERS KILLED IN ONE DAY

II Chronicles 28:6 (the question was not asked concerning this verse but concerning this particular fact that is found in this verse):

And Pekah, the son of Remaliah, killed a hundred and twenty thousand in Judah in one day.

The question is about the large numbers that have been killed in one day. Does that seem reasonable? Some try to explain it by taking the word "thousand" and making it less, but that is not good grammar. I suggest a simple answer or two.

The historian Herodotus recorded in his "Historian No. 7" that when Xerxes, king of Persia, invaded Greece he had an army of one million seven hundred thousand soldiers. Alexander the Great, with only forty thousand in his army defeated him, and it is reasonable to believe that a large number of those would have fallen. There are large losses recorded in other historical accounts. For example, the Armenians in one battle lost one hundred and fifty thousand out of two hundred and sixty thousand. This would certainly be in line with the figures in II Chronicles 28:6.

I do not have the figures, but I heard a review of D-day on television. Some survivors were interviewed and apparently the slaughter was tremendous, and one man remarked concerning the stench. Also, in the Virginia there is a battlefield called "Bloody Lane" in which during the Civil War the northern and southern armies were lined up against each other. All they did was stand there and shoot each other, and the losses were very great. So the accounts of losses that Israel suffered are not out of reason.

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